

Dear Sirs:

I am in favor of keeping a morse code requirement in the licensing of Amatuer Radio Operators.

As a Volunteer Examiner I have all to often witnessed the "cookie cutter" manner at which prospective hams approached the exams. Many simply study the answers having no real idea of the principles involved.

The learning of morse code for a test insures that Amatuer Radio licenses are not merely given away. We all know how the CB frequencies are abused. I fear we are well on the way to that situation if we continue to "dumb" down our requirements. At least the applicant has to study SOMETHING.

One final thought. The Morse Code also insures reliable communication with the non-english speaking international community. Something that plain phone or digital communications can't always promise.

Thanks

Pieter D. Gaskin

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